

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 21, beginning at line 4 and ending at line 14, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Example 3: RNA interference

Two distinct small interfering RNA (siRNA) oligonucleotides duplexes (hSGT and hSGT*,) which specifically targeted the sequences 5'-

AACTTGAAGCTGCCGTGGATT-3' SEQ ID NO:3 (SEQ ID NO:2) and 5'-

AAGCACGTGGAGGCCGTGGCTTA-3' SEQ ID NO:4 (SEQ ID NO:3) within *hsgt* were supplied by Xeragon Inc.[.] By BLAST analysis, the sequences of these two siRNA oligonucleotides were not detected in any other human gene. As negative control, the previously described *g12*-specific siRNA was used. Transfection was performed using the oligofectamineTM Reagent (Invitrogen) following the instruction of the supplier, and silencing efficiency was determined by evaluating the residual amount of hSGT after immunoblotting.